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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/980,624	03/28/2002	Ikuro Maruyama	0760-0298P	8158
2292	7590	07/20/2004	EXAMINER	
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			LUKTON, DAVID	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

1653

DATE MAILED: 07/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/980624

EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER
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20040701

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

Please see the attached communication regarding the response filed 7/8/04.

Applicants' election of Group 1 (claims 1-14, 17-19) with traverse is acknowledged.

Also acknowledged is applicants' attempt to comply with the "election of species requirement":

- applicants have elected an adsorbent comprising a carrier on which a substance having sulfonic acid groups is immobilized;
- applicants have elected cyanogen bromide as providing a means of bonding the sulfonic acid to the carrier;
- applicants have elected direct linkage of the sulfonic acid to the carrier, without the presence of a linker.

However, the foregoing elections are **not fully responsive** to the restriction requirement mailed 6/8/04. First, applicants have not elected a specific "form" of the adsorbent (when dry), e.g., a fiber, a hollow fiber, beads, a flat membrane, or a powder (e.g., page, 6, line 20, specification). Second, applicants have not specified a "water insoluble carrier" (e.g., agarose or dextran, or ceramic coated with polystyrene, or glass coated with a polysulfone). In addition to the foregoing, election of a "substance" is required, as this term is used in line 2 of claim 1. The substance is an entity which is distinct from either the carrier or the hydrogen-bondable functional group.

Applicants' traversal of the restriction requirement is noted. In the event that applicants fully comply with the restriction requirement, a response thereto will be

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provided.

The time period for response (one month) is reset pursuant to this Office action.

However, failure to elect species as indicated above will result in abandonment of the application.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David Lukton whose telephone number is 571-272-0952. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday from 9:30 to 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jon Weber, can be reached at 571-272-0925. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-1600.


**DAVID LUKTON
PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 1800**